

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO  
1042-EPPATENT  
U.S. 09/591,659**Remarks/ Arguments**

In response to the Office Action mailed May 25, 2004, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow the remaining Claims to pass to issue.

Claims 1-17 remain after restriction / election. Claims 1-9 stand rejected and Claims 10-17 are allowed. Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-9, as set forth above, and therefore now ask that allowed Claims 10-17 be passed to issue.

No new matter has been added; the claims have been merely amended to more particularly claim the subject matter Applicants believe is inventive. Applicants respectfully submit that the Claims as they now stand are patentably distinct over the art cited during the prosecution thereof.

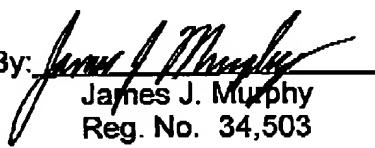
With the addition of no new claims, no additional filing fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 20-0821 of Thompson & Knight LLP.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this paper or the present application in general, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (214) 745-5374.

Respectfully submitted,

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